

## REMARKS

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 17 and 20 will be amended, claims 2, 5-6, 13, 16, and 21 will be canceled, and claim 22 will be newly added. Thus, claims 1, 3-4, 7-12, 14-15, 17-20, and 22 will be pending. These changes have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the present application, and no new matter has been added. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of previously pending claims in this and/or other applications.

The pending claims stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 20020176430 A1 to Sangha et al. (hereinafter Sangha).

The claims have been amended in view of the Examiner's rejection. In particular, 1, 3-4, 7-12, 14-15, and 17-20 may be directed to an embodiment such as the one illustrated in FIG. 5 of the present application. Applicants respectfully suggest that Sangha does not disclose or suggest the subject matter of the amended claims.

Moreover, newly added claim 22 recites that the "the buffer pool register cache is to store buffer handles associated with both receive and transmit operations." Applicants respectfully suggest that the Sangha does not disclose or suggest such a feature. For example, Sangha at [0016]-[0017] states:

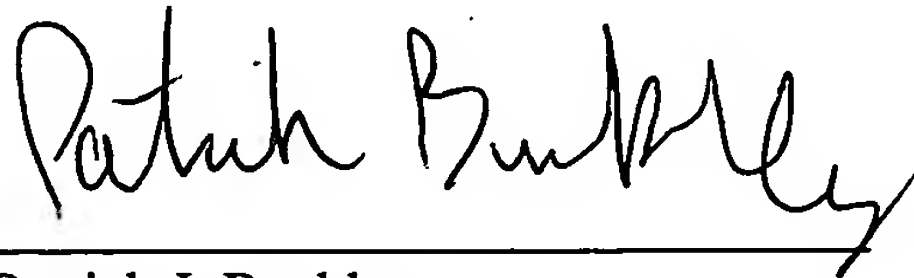
Free data pointers stored in the WFQ are returned to the RFQ in  
due course as described below.

...

For example, data pointers transferred to external memory from a  
WFQ associated with one I/O are returned to that I/O's RFQ.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0191.

Respectfully submitted,



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